



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

United States Patent Application

To: Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

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Attorney's Docket Number U2726US
Title "A MOLECULAR DECOMPOSITION
PROCESS FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF
NANOSIZE CERAMIC POWDERS"

5/A

C.7.

11/7/01

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8
I hereby certify that this document, along with attachments referred to
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L. Sonntag, Reg. 30231

James L. Sonntag

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This is a preliminary amendment responding to issues raised in the International Preliminary Examiner Report (IPER) completed on 21 November 2000 in PCT application PCT/US99/24052, which is claimed for priority in the present application. Claims 1-25 are pending in the application before this amendment. In the IPER, Claims 2-20, 23 to 25 were stated as having novelty, and inventive step. Claims 1, 21, and 22 were stated as not having novelty or inventive step.

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as indicated below:

In the Claims

Please substitute the below amended claims, for pending claims. A marked up version of the pending claims showing all changes made is attached.